

Domestic Relations Committee
Judicial Conference of Indiana

Minutes
February 18, 2011

The Domestic Relations Committee met at the Indiana Judicial Center from 10:30 a.m. – 3:45 p.m. on Friday, February 18, 2011

1. Members present. Craig J. Bobay, Thomas H. Busch, Francis G. Hill, Karen M. Love, Sheryl L. Lynch, Lynn Murray, Nanette K. Raduenz, Frederick A. Schurger, Debbie J. Shook, Dean A. Young, and William C. Fee, Chair, were present.
2. Staff present. Jeffrey Bercovitz, Anne Jordan and Angela Reid-Brown provided the committee with staff assistance.
3. Guests present. Stuart Showalter, Indiana Custodial Rights Advocates, and Craig Scarberry were also present.
4. Minutes approved. The minutes for the committee on November 19, 2010 were approved by the committee.
5. Paternity affidavit. Jeffrey Bercovitz distributed a newspaper article concerning Judge Tanya Walton Pratt's order to the Board of Health which must accept paternity affidavits even if they do not have the Social Security numbers of each parent.
6. Comments. Jeffrey Bercovitz distributed comments about support and parenting time from Latonya G. Bradford, Tedi Gary, and Brian J. Coleman for the committee's consideration.
7. Parenting Time Guidelines revisions. Members of the committee reviewed and revised proposed changes by Magistrate Raduenz and Judge Young on (a) Presume More Time for Noncustodial Parent, (NCP)/Protection of NCP rights /Overnights/Overnights for Infants and (b) Equal Parenting Time. They agreed to add information about parenting time plans. Committee members agreed to begin review of parenting time guidelines at children 3 years of age or older at the next meeting.
8. Education. Anne Jordan discussed ideas for a session on family law at the Spring Judicial College. Committee members liked the idea of an entire day, and suggested a session on evidence for family law, local court rules for family law, cooperative dissolution local rules, parenting time guideline changes, parenting time coordination rules, and ethics and family law.
9. Recent legislation. Angela Reid-Brown reviewed HB 1427, Claiming child as dependent for tax purposes; and HB 1481, Duty to support a child until age 19, instead of 21. Committee members wanted to have clearly indicated in the legislation the support should continue through high school, even after age 19. Mr. Showalter reported HB 1422 passed, which would inform a parent if a criminal investigation is pending involving their child. If it passes, he believes the parenting time guidelines should require a parent to notify the other parent if they receive the report of a criminal investigation.

10. Future meeting dates. Committee members agreed to meet again on Friday, March 18, May 20, July 15, August 19, and November 18, 2011 from 10:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. at the Judicial Center. They also agreed to meet in conjunction with the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts Regional Meeting in Indianapolis on Oct. 27-29, 2011 in Indianapolis.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey Bercovitz, Director
Juvenile and Family Law